

To: Curt Guyette[cguyette@aclumich.org]; Cannon, Phillippa[Cannon.Phillippa@epa.gov]; Cannon, Phillippa[Cannon.Phillippa@epa.gov]; Singer, Joshua[Singer.Joshua@epa.gov]
Cc: Rowan, Anne[rowan.anne@epa.gov]; Kelley, Jeff[kelley.jeff@epa.gov]
From: Cassell, Peter
Sent: Tue 7/14/2015 8:37:56 PM
Subject: RE: Flint Water question

Mr. Guyette,

Below are responses to your questions and can be attributed to U.S. EPA.

Q. Mr. Del Toral asserts that a city the size of Flint is required to use a corrosion control treatment such as phosphate in their drinking water. Is Mr. Del Toral correct?

Flint and other large drinking water systems are required to evaluate and optimize pipe corrosion control treatment to protect water from contaminants such as lead. When the city started sourcing drinking water from the Flint River in April 2014, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality determined that Flint should follow the protocol for new systems -- which requires two new rounds of water sampling to determine whether corrosion control treatment is needed. The city has submitted sampling results for the six-month periods from July-December 2014, and from January-June 2015. MDEQ is currently analyzing the sampling data to determine whether corrosion control treatment is needed.

Q. Also, both Mr. Del Toral, and Marc Edwards, an expert on the issue at Virginia Tech, both say that the manner in which Flint conducts its tests is almost certain to minimize the risk and miss worst-case scenarios. What is the EPA's opinion regarding that?

Michigan complies with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act's protocol which requires that the tap remain unused for at least 6 hours before taking a sample. EPA is currently revising the federal lead and copper rule to address several issues including sampling protocols.

In addition, EPA notes that the water samples taken from the Walters' residence were atypical in two ways:

- [REDACTED] the tap had not been run for over three weeks before the samples were taken. Stagnation can cause higher lead levels, and
- [REDACTED] the home's long service line is configured in an unusual way.

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From: Curt Guyette [mailto:cguyette@aclumich.org]
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2015 9:12 AM
To: Cannon, Phillippa; Cannon, Phillippa; Cassell, Peter; Singer, Joshua
Subject: Flint Water question

I am following up on a June 24 memo written by Miguel Del Doral of the EPA's Region 5. In that memo, Mr. Del Toral asserts that a city the size of Flint is required to use a corrosion control treatment such as phosphate in their drinking water.

Is Mr. Del Toral correct?

Also, both Mr. Del Toral, and Marc Edwards, an expert on the issue at Virginia Tech, both say that the manner in which Flint conducts its tests is almost certain to minimize the risk and miss

worst-case scenarios.

What is the EPA's opinion regarding that?

I can be reached by phone at (w) 313-578-6834 or © 586-925-0493.

Curt Guyette